

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 MMO-01 ICA-11 AID-05 A-01
PER-01 /045 W
-----121462 140420Z /70
R 131000Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6978

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: AMGT PFOR BY
SUBJECT: GORM

REF: STATE 69374

1. INFORMATION REQUESTED PARA 2 REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:

TOTAL MISSION RESOURCES

PERSONNEL

	DIRECT HIRE (INCREASE)		CONTRACT (INCREASE)	
	US	LOCAL	US	LOCAL
STATE	11 (0)	17 (0)	0	2 (0)
AID	6 (4)	12 (6)	14 (14)	40 (40)
ICA	1 (0)	4 (0)	0	0
TOTAL	18 (4)	31 (6)	14 (14)	42 (40)

PROGRAM

OPTIMAL INCREASE

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STATE (S&E)	266,000	24,000
AID	5,000,000	3,800,000
ICA	178,000	52,000
SELF HELP	100,000	0
TOTAL	5,544,000	3,876,000

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

STATE	242,000	22,000
AID	1,000,000	675,000
ICA	20,000	11,000
TOTAL	1,262,000	708,000

2. AID PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO COINCIDE WITH AND CONTRIBUTE TO GRB'S PRIORITIES OF IMPROVING LIVING STANDARDS OF RURAL POOR. IF SUCCESSFUL, THESE SHOULD REDUCE SOCIAL TENSIONS WITHIN SOCIETY. ICA PROGRAMS INTENDED PROVIDE BURUNDIANS WITH EXPANDED OPPORTUNITY

:

TO VIEW U.S. SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL TECHNIQUES WHICH COULD CONTRIBUTE TO RESOLUTION OF BURUNDI'S PROBLEMS BY PRESENTING NEW OPTIONS. STATE PROGRAM PROVIDES OVERALL MISSION COORDINATION, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AND CONSULAR AND COMMERCIAL COVERAGE AT LOW LEVEL REQUIRED BY PRESENCE OF APPROXIMATELY 120 U.S. MISSIONARIES AND ALMOST NO U.S. COMMERCIAL INTEREST IN BURUNDI.

3. WE FIND IT DIFFICULT BE CONCRETE ON HOW CUTS CAN BE MADE IN PROJECTED BUDGETS. FY 78 IS FIRST FULL YEAR WE HAVE HAD AID PROGRAM AND FIRST PROJECT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL GET UNDER WAY IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. FY 80 BUDGET INCLUDES ADDITIONAL PROJECTS WHICH WILL BRING PROGRAM TO SUBSTANTIAL LEVEL. THE \$5 MILLION FIGURE IS AID TARGET FIGURE AND IS STILL HIGHLY PROBLEMATIC. WE HAVE YET TO DETERMINE WHETHER BURUNDI CAN ABSORB U.S. ASSISTANCE AT THIS RATE, AND APPROPRIATE PROJECTS HAVE YET TO BE IDENTIFIED AND DESIGNED. WE CAN PROJECT REDUCTIONS IN STATE PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT BUDGETS IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$60,000, BUT SINCE AID BUDGET DISPROPORTIONATE PART OF TOTAL BUDGET, BULK OF REDUCTIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE THERE. WE WOULD AT THIS POINT BE EXTREMELY UNHAPPY TO PROGRAM DELAYS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTEMPLATED PROJECTS. WE HAVE COMMITMENT TO GRB TO MOVE AHEAD WITH AID PROGRAM, AND BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DISAPPOINTMENT TO BURUNDI IF WE POSTPONED MAJOR PORTION OF PROGRAM AT THIS LATE DATE. IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO EFFECT CUTS BY REDUCING OBLIGATIONS IN FY 80 AND RAISING THEM IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS, BUT THIS SIMPLY FISCAL SLEIGHT OF HAND. CONCEIVABLY THEY COULD BE OBTAINED BY REDUCING THE SIZE OF ONE OR MORE PROJECTS, BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO BE SPECIFIC ABOUT THIS

SINCE THERE NO WAY TO ANTICIPATE EXPENDITURES
IN THIS KIND OF DETAIL UNTIL THE PROJECTS ARE
CLOSER TO GETTING UNDERWAY.

4. ICA OPERATIONS IN SIMILAR POSITION. PROGRAM
HAS BEEN MARGINAL IN RECENT YEARS, AND PAO TO BE
ASSIGNED THIS SUMMER. WE HAVE TRIED TO MAKE
REASONABLE PROJECTION OF OPTIMAL ICA FY 80 BUDGET,
BUT WE HOPE PAO WILL BE ABLE ESTABLISH WIDE RANGE
OF CONTACTS IN CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC AREAS OF
SOCIETY WHICH CAN LEAD TO GREATER OPPORTUNITIES
FOR CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS AND TRAVEL GRANTS.
THIS COULD CHANGE OPTIMAL FIGURE CONSIDERABLY.
IN ADDITION, WE CAN ONLY GUESS AT COSTS ASSOCIATED
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WITH ASSIGNMENT OF PAO.

5. REDUCTION IN STATE EXPENDITURES COULD BE MADE
BY ELIMINATING FOUR LOW PRIORITY LOCAL POSITIONS IN
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION AND BY CONSOLIDATING EMBASSY
WORKSHOP AND WAREHOUSE SPACE. WE WOULD, IN ADDITION
HAVE TO HOLD STATE EXPENDITURES AT THEIR CURRENT
LEVEL WHICH GIVEN INFLATION OF FIVE PERCENT PER
YEAR WOULD MEAN GENERAL TIGHTENING UP OF
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES AND SOME POSTPONEMENT
OF FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT.
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